

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Also Meeting As  
STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

January 7, 1999  
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Arthur E. Ellis, Chairman  
Mrs. Dorothy Beardmore  
Mr. Clark Durant  
Mrs. Sharon L. Gire  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire  
Dr. Herbert S. Moyer  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus  
Mrs. Eileen L. Weiser  
Mrs. Sharon A. Wise  
Governor John Engler, ex officio  
Mr. Tim Kelly, representing Governor John Engler, ex officio

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. AGENDA MATERIALS

- A. Approval of State Board of Education Minutes/Actions of Meeting of December 3, 1988
- B. Report on Consent Agenda - Revised Memorandum dated January 7, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board

III. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Information on the Michigan School Health Services Report - Memorandum dated January 7, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board
- B. Information on Nominations to the Special Education Advisory Committee - Memorandum dated January 7, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board
- C. Information regarding READY Executive Overview - Memorandum dated

December 9, 1998

- D. Update on Activities at Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB), Michigan School for the Blind (MSB) Lansing Campus, and Camp Tuhsmeheeta - Memorandum dated January 7, 1999, from Alexander G. Davlantes, Administrative Officer, to the Board
- E. Information on Implementation of Statewide Assessment of Social Studies at Grades 5, 8, and 11 - Memorandum dated January 7, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. Extension of Contract of Superintendent of Public Instruction - added to agenda
- B. Approval of 1999 Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program Grant Criteria - added to agenda
- C. Approval of Awards for the 1998-99 Goals 2000: Educate America Act Grant Program - Cycle 7 - Implementation of the Michigan Curriculum Framework - added to agenda
- D. Approval of Proposal from Michigan State University for a New Language Arts Program as a Group Major and an Additional Endorsement at the Elementary Level - added to agenda
- E. Approval of Proposal from Eastern Michigan University to Convert its Elementary and Secondary Level Special Education Programs: Emotionally Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Mentally Impaired, Physically and Otherwise Health Impaired, and Visually Impaired into K-12 Program Endorsements - added to agenda
- F. Approval of Proposal from Calvin College to Convert its Elementary and Secondary Learning Disabilities and Mentally Impaired Programs into K-12 Program Endorsements - added to agenda

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Beardmore, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as modified.**

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion carried.**

V. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE - MRS. KATHLEEN N. STRAUS

On behalf of the State Board of Education, Mrs. Straus welcomed newly elected members Mrs. Sharon L. Gire, and Mrs. Eileen L. Weiser to the State Board of Education, and presented each with a bouquet of flowers.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND GUESTS

Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, Administrative Secretary to the State Board of Education, introduced the members of the State Board of Education and guests attending the meeting.

VII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES/ACTIONS

- A. Approval of State Board of Education Minutes/Actions of Meeting of December 3, 1998

**Mrs. Wise moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire, that the State Board of Education approve the minutes/actions of the State Board of Education meeting of December 3, 1998.**

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion carried.**

VIII. ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS

- A. Election of President or Co-Presidents of the State Board of Education

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the President or Co-Presidents of the State Board of Education.

Dr. Moyer nominated Mrs. Dorothy Beardmore for President of the State Board of Education.

There were no further nominations. Mr. Ellis declared that nominations were closed.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Beardmore if she would accept the nomination.

Mrs. Beardmore responded she would accept the nomination.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Dorothy Beardmore as President of the State Board of Education.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**Mr. Ellis declared that Mrs. Beardmore was elected President of the State Board of Education.**

B. Election of Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents of the State Board of Education

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents of the State Board of Education.

Ms. Gire nominated Mrs. Kathleen Straus for Vice President of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Weiser nominated Mrs. Sharon Gire for Vice President of the State Board of Education, seconded by Mr. Durant.

There were no further nominations. Mr. Ellis declared that nominations were closed.

Mr. Durant said although he respects Mrs. Straus, and feels she has been a good President for the Board there is an opportunity to impress upon the new Legislature that the Board is not simply maintaining the status quo. He said Mrs. Gire had a distinguished career in the Michigan House of Representatives, and has demonstrated her leadership capacities as chair of the House Education Committee. He said it is important to cultivate and encourage relationships to develop, which will be important in going forth.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Gire if she would accept the nomination. Mrs. Gire said she appreciated Mrs. Weiser's confidence, but declined the nomination.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Straus if she would accept the nomination.

Mrs. Straus responded that she would accept the nomination. She said though she acknowledged Mr. Durant's comments, she feels that an opportunity remains to continue in the constructive steps to improve education in Michigan.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Kathleen Straus as Vice President of the State Board of Education.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**  
**Nay: Durant**

**Mr. Ellis declared that Mrs. Straus was elected Vice President of the State Board of Education.**

C. Election of Secretary of the State Board of Education

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the Secretary of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Beardmore nominated Dr. Herbert Moyer for Secretary of the State Board of Education, seconded by Mr. Durant.

There were no further nominations. Mr. Ellis declared that nominations were closed.

Mr. Ellis asked Dr. Moyer if he would accept the nomination.

Dr. Moyer responded that he would accept the nomination.

The vote was taken on the election of Dr. Herbert Moyer as Secretary of the State Board of Education.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus,  
Weiser, Wise**

**Mr. Ellis declared that Dr. Moyer was elected Secretary of the State Board of Education.**

D. Election of Treasurer of the State Board of Education

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the Treasurer of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Beardmore nominated Mrs. Sharon Wise for Treasurer of the State Board of Education.

There were no further nominations. Mr. Ellis declared that nominations were closed.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Wise if she would accept the nomination.

Mrs. Wise responded she would accept the nomination.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Sharon Wise as Treasurer of the State Board of Education.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus,  
Weiser,  
Wise**

**Mr. Ellis declared that Mrs. Wise was elected Treasurer of the State Board of Education.**

E. Election of State Board of Education Delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the State Board of Education Delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education.

Mrs. Straus nominated Mrs. Sharon Gire for National Association of State Boards of Education Delegate.

There were no further nominations. Mr. Ellis declared that nominations were closed.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Gire if she would accept the nomination.

Mrs. Gire responded she would accept the nomination.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Sharon Gire as State Board of Education Delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus,  
Weiser,  
Wise**

**Mr. Ellis declared that Mrs. Gire was elected Delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education.**

IX. ADOPTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 1999

Mr. Ellis suggested that the Board table the Adoption of State Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 1999 until later in the meeting to accommodate time constraints and allow discussion on the Update on Accreditation/Accountability.

Mrs. Beardmore distributed to the Board, a memorandum dated December 22, 1998 to Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, Administrative Secretary, regarding the State Board of Education Meeting Schedule. She said the memorandum suggests a proposed meeting schedule that, with the exception of August, calls for the meetings of the Board to be held on the third Thursday of each month.

Mrs. Beardmore suggested that the Board meet Wednesday evenings on even numbered months to allow in-depth discussion on topics of interest, and reconvene on Thursday to complete the agenda.

Mrs. Hamilton said she recently learned that there would also be a conflict on the third Thursday in June, and therefore, the meeting date would need to be adjusted.

Mrs. Gire said she is pleased with the concept of providing substantive time on pertinent issues, and suggested that the Board evaluate the Action Plan to ascertain what has been accomplished and possibly develop a continuing plan for the future.

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Mr. Durant, that the discussion and action regarding the meeting schedule for 1999 be tabled until later in the meeting.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion to table carried.**

X. APPROVAL OF MODIFICATION TO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BY-LAWS - FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

There was consensus to table discussion on this item until later in the meeting.

XI. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

There was consensus to table discussion on this item until later in the meeting.

XII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Reassignment of Fiscal Agent for the Michigan Statewide Systemic Initiative Grant
- B. Approval of Additional Grant Awards for 1998-99 Michigan School Readiness Program Grant to Downriver Guidance Clinic and Mid Michigan Community Action Agency
- C. Approval of Additional Grant Awards for 1998-99 Child Care and Development Fund Competitive Grant Program for School Age Child Care to Michigan Center Schools and the YWCA of Lansing
- D. Approval of Negotiated Grant Agreement with Van Buren Intermediate School District (ISD) for Implementation of the Project Synergy Technology Component
- E. Approval of Awards for the 1998-99 Goals 2000: Educate America Act Grant Program - Cycle 7 - Implementation of the Michigan Curriculum Framework
- F. Receive the Report on Personnel Status
- G. Receive the Report on the Annual Activities of the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers - this item was removed from the consent agenda

and placed under discussion items

- H. Receive the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Status Report on the Spring Arbor College Teacher Preparation Program
- I. Receive the Report on Proprietary Schools
- J. Approval of Seven 1998-2001 Intermediate School District Plans for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- K. Approval of April 1999 as “Project Find” Month in Michigan
- L. Approval of the North Central Michigan College Annexation Proposal to Include Charlevoix County
- M. Approval of Issuance of Boarding School Licenses for Academic Year 1999-2000
- N. Approval of Proposal from Michigan State University for a New Language Arts Program as a Group Major and an Additional Endorsement at the Elementary Level
- O. Approval of Proposal from Eastern Michigan University to Convert its Elementary and Secondary Level Special Education Programs: Emotionally Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Mentally Impaired, Physically and Otherwise Health Impaired, and Visually Impaired into K-12 Program Endorsements
- P. Approval of Proposal from Calvin College to Convert its Elementary and Secondary Learning Disabilities and Mentally Impaired Programs into K-12 Program Endorsements
- Q. Approval of Proposal from Hope College for an Amendment of its Language Arts Program as a Group Minor at the Secondary Level - this item was removed from the consent agenda and placed under discussion items
- R. Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming Talent Development Week
- S. Adoption of Resolution Honoring Donald and Elizabeth Currie
- T. Approval of State Board of Education/Department of Education Cosponsorships
- EE. Approval of 1999 Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program Grant Criteria

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Gire, that the State Board of Education approve the Superintendent’s recommendations for the items on the consent agenda as follows:**



- A. approve (1) Calhoun Intermediate School District as fiscal agent for the \$130,000 in residual funds remaining in the National Science Foundation grant ESR-9250061, effective January 1, 1999; (2) transfer of the \$150,000 Eisenhower State Leadership grant from the Eaton Intermediate School District to the Calhoun Intermediate School District, effective January 1, 1999; and (3) Calhoun Intermediate School District as fiscal agent for the \$10,000 contribution from ESD: The Engineering Society to support MSSI/MiSMA's continuing operations, effective January 1, 1999;**
- B. approve additional 1998-99 Michigan School Readiness Program Grant awards to the Downriver Guidance Clinic and the Mid Michigan Community Action Agency each in the amount of \$55,800 to serve an additional 18 children as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;**
- C. approve additional grant awards for 1998-99 Child Care and Development Fund Competitive Grant Program for School Age Child Care to Michigan Center Schools and the YWCA of Lansing as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;**
- D. approve a negotiated grant agreement between the Michigan Department of Education and the Van Buren Intermediate School District for the implementation of PROJECT SYNERGY in support of the technology and technical assistance components of the grant, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum of December 16, 1998;**
- E. approve the grant award recommendations under the 1998-99 Goals 2000 Grant Program - Cycle 7 - totaling \$5,968,115, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 22, 1998;**
- F. receive the report on personnel status, including the appointment of John Williams as Director of Career, Curriculum and Technical Education, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum of December 16, 1998;**
- G. (this item was removed from the consent agenda and placed under discussion items);**
- H. approve the Spring Arbor College Physics specialty-studies program until the next full Periodic Review/Program Evaluation review, contingent on the approval status of the education unit in 1999, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;**
- I. (1) receive the report on proprietary schools dated December 16, 1998,**

reporting issuance of information on permits, licenses, or certificates of compliance as listed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998; and (2) approve the Superintendent's Committee on Proprietary Schools' recommendation to close two (2) in-state schools as identified in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;

- J.** approve the seven intermediate school district plans for the 1998-2001 school years, as identified in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;
- K.** approve April as Project Find Month in Michigan, as recommended in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;
- L.** approve the proposed annexation of the County of Charlevoix to the existing North Central Michigan College district, subject to the approval of the qualified electors of Charlevoix County, as contained in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;
- M.** approve the issuance of regular boarding school licenses for one year to Cranbrook/Kingswood School (Bloomfield Hills), Detroit Country Day School (Beverly Hills), Great Lakes Adventist Academy (Cedar Lake), Interlochen Arts Academy (Interlochen); The Leelanau School (Glen Arbor); Michigan Lutheran Seminary (Saginaw), Saint Mary's Preparatory (Orchard Lake); and Spring Vale Academy (Owosso) as required by Act 451, P.A. of 1976, as contained in the Superintendent's memorandum of December 16, 1998;
- N.** approve the proposal for a new Language Arts program group major and an additional endorsement at the elementary level as submitted by Michigan State University and discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 18, 1998;
- O.** approve the proposal to convert the Elementary and Secondary Level Special Education Programs; Emotionally, Hearing, Mentally, Visually and Physically and Otherwise Health Impaired programs into K-12 program endorsements as submitted by Eastern Michigan University, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;
- P.** approve the proposal to convert the elementary and secondary Learning Disabilities and Mentally Impaired programs into K-12 program endorsements as submitted by Calvin College, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998;
- Q.** (this item was removed from the consent agenda and placed under discussion items);

- R. adopt the Resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998 proclaiming April 25-30, 1999, as Talent Development Week; and ask the Superintendent of Public Instruction to distribute the resolution and suggested activities concerning this week to the appropriate agencies, institutions, and individuals;**
- S. adopt the resolution honoring Donald and Elizabeth Currie, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 18, 1998;**
- T. approve the cosponsorships of the conferences described in the exhibits to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998, as follows: (1) "1999 Educational Technology Coordinator's Conference"; (2) "1999 McDonald's State Championship Quiz Bowl"; and (3) "Living Textbook Day"; and**
- EE. approve the criteria for the 1999 Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program as described in the Superintendent's memorandum of December 22, 1998;**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion carried.**

The resolutions are attached as Exhibit A and B respectively.

### **XIII. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no Awards and Recognitions presented.

### **XIV. UPDATE ON ACCREDITATION/ACCOUNTABILITY**

Mr. Ellis said the Update on Accreditation/Accountability includes a summary and brief history of Michigan accreditation initiatives. He said staff have been working on this issue for some time and the report is the first public unveiling of those efforts. He said it is the beginning of a serious discussion on how the Board must change accountability and accreditation.

Dr. Diane Smolen, Director, Standards, Assessment and Accreditation Services, and Dr. Lindy Buch, Acting Supervisor, School Development Unit, provided information, a slide presentation, and responded to questions from the Board pertaining to the accreditation program.

Dr. Smolen said the Department's perspective provides a great difference between accountability and accreditation. She said accreditation is a confirmation of processes and has traditionally come at the end of the procedure, and there are a number of agencies external to the Department which have excellent processes and work toward that purpose. She said accountability, on the other hand, is designed to focus on results and implies that schools and local districts are responsible for the continued success of students.

Dr. Smolen said an accountability system will assist the Department with the policy framework, within which all programs that are administered by the Department function. She said it will enable staff to direct resources where they are most needed, and technical assistance will be provided where improvement is in doubt. She said students who meet yearly expectations should be rewarded, and exemplary school districts provided with incentives by relieving them of the burdens of paperwork requirements. She said a review component should be maintained for chronically low performing schools that are unable to make progress, and a review panel formed which will have the capability to address the Board, the Legislature, and the Governor regarding appropriate educational opportunities for the children who attend those schools.

Dr. Smolen said the Department needs to make use of other indicators of quality educational programs that are provided by schools and districts in addition to student achievement, rather than relying on test results as the only measure that drives the system. She said the new system will provide an opportunity to receive demonstrated quality for public education.

Dr. Buch said at its September 3, 1998 meeting, the Board received an outline based on four components of a comprehensive system for assuring the high quality of education in Michigan. She said the four components consist of (1) a building component based upon student academic performance; (2) a district and building component based upon program quality indicators; (3) a district and building component that addresses the school improvement process; and (4) an award, incentive, support and review component. She said some wording changes have been made to the first component in an effort to make it easier to understand.

Dr. Buch said there are only seven unaccredited middle schools and zero unaccredited elementary schools left in Michigan. She said great progress has been made, but it is time to move onto a new system where progress will continue. She said the yearly progress procedure adopted by the Board for Title I schools may be utilized to carefully review each school's progress. She said it is also recommended to change how test subjects are viewed to consider using reading, writing, science and mathematics. She said reading would be considered one subject rather than breaking out the subgroup that is consistent with the curriculum framework. She said although student academic performance is not the only component of the new system, it is still very important and critical to assure a quality

education. She said staff is working to expand that.

Dr. Buch said the second component is based on program quality indicators other than student academic performance. She said there are many children whose schooling efforts are not covered simply by academic performance based on statewide tests, because they are either too young or in alternative, or career and technical education programs. She said efforts within the Department to insure high quality are being made, but cannot be reflected by test scores. She said an accountability work group has been established to address issues and bring them into a single system. She said at its November 5, 1998 meeting, the Board adopted alternative assessments for students with severe disabilities, and efforts have been made to integrate those assessments into the system. She said the career preparation system is also working on measuring work place readiness, and obtaining data on college placement that will indicate whether career and technical education programs are successful in meeting the goals of students.

Dr. Buch said an article published recently in Education Week stated that how well children do in school can be attributed to what they come to school with, and a number of studies have indicated that schools should focus on children as they enter kindergarten. She said much progress could be made if the Board could assist with that variable. She said staff is looking at school readiness as two different issues, (1) concerned with the experiences that children have before they begin school that their families and communities offer to prepare them for school, and (2) the readiness of schools to serve today's children and offer experiences that reflect the abilities and the places they are in their learning. She said the Department must assist schools in taking advantage of the recent research on child development and learning to ensure all children have the opportunity for success as they enter school.

Dr. Buch said the third component is the school improvement process that schools have been required to participate in for a number of years, and the Accountability Workgroup has been discussing how that process should be used in the new system. She said in the past schools have been required to certify that they are in compliance. She said consideration has been given as to whether that process should be reversed, and if schools are doing well at a higher status level, they should be relieved of the paperwork. She said schools who are in a lower status situation should be monitored more closely to determine how their school improvement planning may be modified to focus on student achievement.

Dr. Buch said the fourth component will encompass both a recognition and reward for the schools and districts that are doing very well, and a variety of awards that already exist within the Department. She said by bringing all award programs together, the system will reflect quality and provide focus for technical assistance for school districts with the most need, and the leadership to provide excellence for all

children. She said it is hoped that with the development of the new integrated system, it will be possible for the public to say that Michigan schools are of high quality, and working in a continuous effort to improve for all Michigan students.

Dr. Smolen said state aid funds have been appropriated for use for technical assistance with the requirement that schools which submit proposals must be willing to offer services to any other school district in need. She said the result of that requirement is that intermediate school districts are forming consortia to work across boundaries to provide schools the needed assistance.

In response to Mrs. Straus, Dr. Smolen said the result of the presentation given by the Achievement Group at the August 20, 1997, State Board of Education meeting was the recommendation that staff visit schools, rather than rely on schools contacting the Department regarding curriculum alignment, professional development for teachers and provide technical assistance through grants for students with disabilities. She said another change recommended was to involve the local school district's central office when addressing concerns brought forth by the school, because accountability lies with both the school and the school district.

In response to Mrs. Straus, Dr. Smolen said the grant was not written in such a way to wait for an invitation from a school, but the Department would take the initiative and provide staff to work with the principal and faculty to improve their methods, techniques, and operations.

In response to Mrs. Gire, Dr. Smolen said the method of assistance varies from school to school depending upon the situation. She said staff help focus ideas, develop a workable school improvement plan, and all the components that make it work. She said the Department does not get involved if a teacher or principal does not wish to cooperate.

In response to Mrs. Straus, Dr. Smolen said the Department simply does not have the resources available to provide a mentor for every school that needs help, however, efforts are being made toward accomplishing that goal.

Mrs. Beardmore said the Office of Field Services is one avenue to assist in dissemination of process changes. She said comments were made that there has not been enough focus on the preschool years, but she feels that is untrue. She said currently the most visible is the R.E.A.D.Y. program, and the interagency effort that is well advanced in Michigan compared to other states. She said she thinks that it is a matter of pulling together the various programs into one coherent system.

Mrs. Beardmore said in the past, schools have been categorized as either unaccredited or interim with no indication of efforts to improve that status. She said the formula demands improvement, and to break free of a low performing group, 50% or higher must be achieved in some area. She said the standards are very high,

and if young people are to be ready for employment and postsecondary education, they must know more than students from previous eras. She said there seems to be a sense of urgency, however, it is not universally held.

Mrs. Weiser said conditions exist based on the requirements established to help people make a living, however, the Board is not setting the standards for employment or higher education.

Dr. Buch said a single student record database is in the process of development that will enable the Department and schools to disaggregated data, and provide a different viewpoint on test scores and teaching skills. She said it is a leadership opportunity that can be provided by the Department and will establish a method of looking at individual schools.

Educational Dr. Moyer said significant improvement has been noted on the Michigan

Assessment Program (MEAP) scores because of the emphasis placed on children in the lower quartile. He said there is a basis of disaggregated data showing that from year to year that number is decreasing, and those students are moving up the scale. He said a penalizing attitude is conveyed without an awards program in place.

Dr. Buch said she thinks the system rewards schools rather quickly for progress made by utilizing the adequate yearly progress report. She said the categories are still large, but the new program can track a student's progress and gives weight to the status.

In response to Dr. Moyer, Dr. Buch said it is possible to be categorized as a low performing but progressing school, which she feels will provide some status that schools may wish to advertise.

Governor Engler said 60% of the answers correct on the MEAP test results in a satisfactory, however, that score at most universities would be a failing grade. He said he likes the use of the Adequate Yearly Progress Report because it pushes, and he feels there is too much comfort along the continuum.

In response to Governor Engler, Dr. Buch provided clarification on the Measures of Student Academic Performance, and definitions of the Low Performance Status, and Moderate Performance Status categories.

In response to Governor Engler, Dr. Smolen said there are seventeen high schools and eight middle schools which remain unaccredited in Michigan. She said the high school test has undergone changes recently that result in a lack of comparable data.

Ms. Sue Peterman, Department Analyst, Standards, Assessment, and Accreditation Services, provided an explanation of the Accreditation Status by Year. She said

there are many variables that could cause discrepancies in the building counts from year to year.

Governor Engler said school board members face challenges which include communication and a working knowledge that enable them to ask the hard questions. He said he thinks the Field Services emphasis in the Department is a welcome break from the old system of non centralized information, and is encouraged by the partnering with the intermediate school districts. He said he feels the Department should require that a local board member attend meetings held regarding unaccredited status.

In response to Mrs. Straus, Dr. Smolen said many of the unaccredited schools are making attempts toward improvement, though it is a very slow process. She said some of the schools are more concerned with simply getting off the unaccredited schools list rather than implementing changes. She said it is imperative for the Department to encourage schools to develop systemic improvements, rather than focusing on children who may be moved quickly on the MEAP test. She said that is why accountability is so important.

Mr. Durant expressed concern with the change from accreditation to accountability. He said it has been stated that accreditation occurs at the end of the process, and feels that process truly indicates whether or not a school is successful. He said by thinking of accreditation as a broader sense of progress, the practical effect will allow children to slip through the cracks more easily. He said he feels it will be more confusing for the general public if a more fluid system is adopted, and that it will no longer be a question if a school is accredited, but of location on the performance chart. He said that possibly the Board should toughen accreditation in terms of applying it so all children are covered, such as dropouts. He said progress would be easier to implement and communicate, and the standards will make it clear and direct.

Mrs. Gire complimented staff for their efforts in undertaking some tough issues, and in providing hard data behind it. She said she feels time is needed for the Board to address the issues presented and asked where other issues, besides MEAP scores, fit into the equation.

Dr. Buch responded by saying the second component mentions program quality indicators, and though the single student record database will indicate some very important data. She said staff will need to determine if further information is needed in order to address other issues.

Mrs. Gire expressed concern regarding vast numbers of students opting out of the MEAP High School Test, and said she has spoken with some superintendents who are bending over backwards in trying to get students to take the test. She said she assumes high schools will eventually be included in the accountability process.



Dr. Smolen said efforts are being made to utilize the MEAP High School Test which may result in incentives. She said stability will be the primary factor and high schools where a large number of students opt out of the MEAP High School Test may find themselves in a difficult position from an accountability standpoint.

Governor Engler said colleges and universities will soon begin requesting MEAP High School Test scores on admission forms, and he feels the problem will be self correcting.

Dr. Moyer said he was disappointed with the lack of apparent interest of local board members in the meetings held regarding accreditation. He suggested that perhaps the Michigan Association of School Boards could form some way to encourage board participation in some of the strategic type sessions, because it must be a team involvement and awareness. He said it is imperative that everyone be on the same page to ensure success for the school district.

Mrs. Beardmore said the Board does not have a general public or school district buy-in of the importance of accountability. She said not only must test scores be changed, but also many other criteria. She said it is imperative that the Board encourage people to believe that all students need to do better than they have ever done before.

Mr. Ellis said an accreditation process could be operated by an organization such as the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NCA) which would avoid the bureaucracy associated with state government, and would still provide schools with the desired approval.

Mr. Durant said criteria established by the Department and that of institutions such as the NCA vary greatly.

Mrs. Straus said she believes that when the accreditation process began, the intent was to provide a self study for schools. She said the process changed when the Legislature mandated that all schools must obtain accreditation or receive the label of being unaccredited. She said the original practice was very good but required a lot of staff time to accomplish, however, because it was a successful operation, perhaps the process should be reviewed once again. She said there has been much focus on the cooperation between schools and the community, and that without both working in tandem, neither will flourish. She said teacher preparation institutions, pre-services, and professional training session should include development in community relations.

Dr. Smolen said there was a pilot program in the late 1980's that consisted of approximately 50 schools and was managed by the Department. She said it was a good program, however, it was not viable nor was it funded. She said the self study was directed toward specific data pieces that related to student achievement, but did not result in change.

In response to Mrs. Straus, Dr. Buch said staff is focusing on outcomes of student achievement and scores, and is struggling with how to integrate them into the school building improvement process.

Dr. Moyer said the NCA has changed significantly and are predicated on an outcomes based accreditation, and now considers PA 25 school improvement, staff development, curriculum, and relates to many of the things the Board has been concerned with. He said he is pleased with what he has observed and would like to see the Board interface with NCA on a more frequent basis. He said they have made a significant impact in line with what the Board is attempting to achieve.

Dr. Moyer moved, that the Board approve the use of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science Tests to determine accountability status. No second was offered on the motion.

Mr. Durant said he feels more discussion is necessary, and he would be interested in reviewing what NCA has done. He said it should not be construed that the Board is abolishing accreditation in any way, but that it is searching for a way through accountability to help students.

Mrs. Beardmore said she agrees with Mrs. Straus in that accreditation and accountability are not mutually exclusive terms. She said the first recommendation presented by staff for Board approval refers to “accreditation status,” however, the second one refers to an “accountability system.” She suggested a term such as accreditation/accountability or the reverse order.

There was consensus to allow staff to continue in their current course and report back to the Board at a future meeting date on accreditation/accountability. Mrs. Straus suggested that because accreditation/accountability is such an important issue, a report should be provided at each Board meeting to allow open discussion between the Board and staff beginning with the February 18, 1999 meeting.

Mrs. Gire said she feels that there are some plateaus where it would be appropriate to revisit discussion on issues that need work, and though it may delay adoption of the recommendation, it will be apparent that the Board is interested and concerned. She said it will not behoove the Board to make a rash decision only to discover later that more work is necessary.

XV. RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

XVI. PRESENTATION ON THE MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (MOIS)

Mr. John Williams, Director, Career, Curriculum, and Technical Services;

Mr. Robert Thelen, Director, Career Planning and Placement, Ingham Intermediate School District; Ms. Janice Pitts-Moore, Director, Michigan Occupational Information System (MOIS); and Mr. Robert Sherer, Workforce Specialist, Michigan Jobs Commission, provided information, a slide presentation, and responded to questions from the Board pertaining to MOIS program, how the system has evolved over the years, and its current status.

Mr. Williams said the Department of Education has been involved with MOIS since 1972. He said the career preparation system is one of the major points of emphasis of the Department, is one of the foundations of assisting students and adults make sound decisions regarding careers, and provides consistent and accurate information regarding a variety of career options.

A copy of the “Manufacturing Career Opportunities,” and the “Michigan Occupational Information System” was distributed to each member of the Board.

In response to Dr. Moyer, Mr. Thelen said MOIS has a product in every school district in the state of Michigan, and support is provided as needed. He said MOIS staff have worked with many school districts which use the Ford Academy for Manufacturing Sciences (FAMS), but although they have worked with General Motors and the Chrysler Corporation, FAMS was established before MOIS was developed and did not become a partner in the project. He said MOIS personnel have met with Department staff on how to better represent community colleges and four year degree granting institutions.

In response to Mrs. Beardmore, Ms. Pitts-Moore said two years ago a system was adopted for the elementary and middle school level that would provide an opportunity for students to match interests with career clusters. She said as a result of the cluster exploration and along with the career pathways materials that have been developed in conjunction with the Department, the program is now geared toward kindergarten through an adult experiencing a work transition.

Mrs. Beardmore said she is pleased that the program is moving into the elementary school level because it is imperative for children to think about what they want to do when they become adults, and to realize that they do have a future. She said conversation held when the Character Education Policy was being developed indicated that every student should have a forward vision or plan for their future. She said young people who believe they are not going to live to be 21 years old may have the attitude of “what difference does it make,” and therefore, do not anticipate a successful future for themselves. She said they do not have role models in their community to follow, but as stated in the Character Education Policy, students need to know that they can prepare for a future that is different from what they see around them. She said they must realize that it demands preparation, opportunity, anticipation, and hope so the younger the child can begin to think about what they want to do when they grow up, and that they will have a future, the earlier they will be able to focus on what they want to do with their lives.

In response to Mrs. Gire, Mr. Thelen said there are many programs available to help

schools obtain computers. He said the MOIS program is quite often sold on a district wide basis as opposed to building by building, which makes it more affordable and accessible for schools.

Ms. Pitts-Moore said the MOIS system is also widely used in public libraries, correctional facilities, and community based centers. She said they have been requested by many types of groups to facilitate a career development program.

In response to Dr. Moyer, Mr. Thelen said there is still an element of the MOIS program influencing children toward certain careers. He said one of the underlying goals for the career preparation system is to expand options for students which is accomplished by offering information. He said too often students become locked on a career choice without actually realizing what is involved or the background of the career choice. He said programs like MOIS try to provide more information so parents and students may become better informed, so students do not make a career choice they may regret in the future.

No action was taken on the item.

XVII. RECESS

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:55 p.m. and reconvened at 2:10 p.m.

XVIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Ms. Marie Lynette Thornton, Michigan Parent Advocate for School Reforms, Inc., 8062 Pierson, Detroit, Michigan 48228. Ms. Thornton offered comments on Project Find, State Board of Education By-Laws, and Senator Dan DeGrow's proposed legislation for a state or local takeover of a public school district.

Mr. Ellis said the Board does not usually respond during public participation, but he wanted to respond to Ms. Thornton in order to clarify a couple of issues.

Mr. Ellis said information that may have been published in some newspapers regarding Senator DeGrow's proposed legislation has not been presented to either the Board or him. He said state law requires that legislation must be voted on and passed by both the Michigan House of Representatives, and the Michigan Senate, as well as signed by the Governor. He said at that point it would become law, however, it would be up to the court system to determine its constitutionality. He said unless an invitation is extended, the Board is not involved in the discussion.

Mrs. Gire said quite often communication does not flow freely between the Legislature and the State Board of Education. She encouraged Ms. Thornton to contact her Representative and/or Senator because they could help keep her apprized of their intentions. She said it is not known whether or not Senator DeGrow will actually follow through with the proposed legislation, nor has he contacted the Board regarding his plans. She said she feels that would be Ms. Thornton's most direct route for information. She said if the legislation is placed before the Senate or House, the Board may offer an official opinion, however, no position will be taken based on information published in a newspaper.

XIX. ADOPTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 1999

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Beardmore, that item titled Adoption of the State Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 1999 be taken from the table.**

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion carried.**

In response to Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Hamilton said consideration was being given to move the Board meetings from the first to the third Thursday of the month at the request of staff and some members of the Board, because of conflicts with meeting time lines.

Mr. Durant suggested that perhaps discussion could be divided between setting the dates for the 1999 schedule and the topics for the extended Wednesday evening sessions. He further suggested that the February State Board of Education meeting be utilized to evaluate the Action Plan, and determine key issues for discussion at future State Board of Education meetings.

Mrs. Beardmore said her memorandum of proposed dates was simply a suggestion of dates and topics. She said the April 23, 1998 State Board of Education Committee of the Whole meeting was devoted exclusively to special education, and, she feels further discussion is needed to complete the focus. She said the Board has adopted some policy changes, and Dr. Jacquelyn Thompson has stated that she is prepared to present additional information. She said she feels it is imperative to review the results of the Action Plan and determine the Board's goals for the coming two years, however, she did not feel extensive changes would be made.

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education meet on the third Thursday of each month of the calendar year 1999,**

**and the evening of the Wednesday before in April, June, September, and October, with the following exceptions: June 23 - 24, 1999, and August 26, 1999.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion carried.**

The meeting schedule is attached at Exhibit C.

XX. APPROVAL OF MODIFICATION TO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BY-LAWS - FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Mr. Ellis said this item suggests a modification, changing “shall” to “may” in Section I. A. 1. and the deletion of Section I. D of the Board’s By-Laws..

Mrs. Straus said it had been mentioned at previous Board meetings, as well as in the memorandum dated December 22, 1998 received from Mrs. Beardmore pertaining the State Board of Education Meeting Schedule, that the Board appoint a subcommittee to evaluate the By-Laws and to suggest modifications. She said because the Board has adopted its meeting schedule for the 1999 calendar year, it may be advisable to withhold the suggested change at this time, and consider it with the recommended modifications of the subcommittee.

**Mr. Durant moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise that the State Board of Education modify its By-Laws regarding frequency of meetings by changing “shall” to “may” in the first line of Section I. A. 1. and delete Section I. D.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Weiser, Wise**

**Nays: Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus**

**The motion failed.**

Mrs. Beardmore said because Dr. Moyer was a superintendent of a public school system prior to his election to the Board, she feels he could provide a working knowledge of wording documents such as the By-Laws and how it would relate to the real world. She said Mr. Durant could offer an attorney’s view to ensure the wording matches the intent, and therefore, she recommended that Dr. Moyer and Mr. Durant sit on the subcommittee to review the By-Laws of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Beardmore said she believes it is important to review the By-Laws, and the question of their necessity should be explored. She said if it is determined that the Board should retain the By-Laws, their point should be established and they should be rewritten to meet the purpose of the Board.

Mr. Ellis said Ms. Edith Harsh, Assistant in Charge of the Education Division, Attorney General's Office, has offered her assistance with the By-Laws.

Mrs. Beardmore said she is aware of only one modification to the By-Laws since they were written. Mrs. Gire and Mrs. Weiser also expressed interest in working on By-Laws, and therefore, she suggested they serve on the subcommittee.

XXI. EXTENSION OF CONTRACT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Mr. Ellis said a meeting was held on Wednesday, January 6, 1999 between Mrs. Beardmore, Mrs. Straus, Ms. Edith Harsh, Assistant in Charge of the Education Division, Attorney General's Office, and him to discuss the extension of his contract. He said the result of that meeting was to recommend extending the contract from January 4, 1999 to July 1, 1999 at a salary of \$108,000 per year, and that he would continue to perform those duties thereafter on a month to month basis until the Board completed its search and selection process for a new Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mr. Ellis said after further consideration, and with the Board's approval, he would be willing to work another two years to better serve the Department and education in Michigan. He said he harbors no feelings of being pushed out and has no intentions of resigning. He said it is his opinion that the Michigan Constitution is specific in that he has a continuing appointment as superintendent until he either resigns or the Board replaces him. Mr. Ellis turned the chair over to Mrs. Beardmore to allow further discussion.

Mrs. Beardmore said even though each Board member may not have seen the proposed contract for Mr. Ellis prior to the meeting, all are aware of its content. She said there are no other changes from the preceding contract except as contained in paragraph one, "That Arthur E. Ellis will perform the duties of Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Michigan from January 4, 1999 to July 1, 1999, at a salary of \$108,000 per year and continue to perform those duties thereafter on a month to month basis until the Board has completed its search and selection process for a new Superintendent of Public Instruction. This contract will not extend beyond December 31, 1999." She said according to Ms. Harsh, the Board cannot extend the contract by more than one year at a time, and therefore, people should not read ambiguities into the December 31, 1999 closure. She said the previous contract ran until December 31, 1998, and it was her understanding that the Board needed to

extend the contract to ensure a continued official relationship with Mr. Ellis. She said the suggested salary compensation has been adjusted to begin to reflect a more appropriate salary for the responsibilities of the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mrs. Wise said because the contract may only be extended on a yearly basis, she would prefer that it run from January 4, 1999 to December 31, 1999.

Mr. Durant said the search for a new Superintendent of Public Instruction will take a great amount of time to conduct, and the chances of a credible candidate applying will be hampered by the knowledge that the current chief administrative officer of the Department is on a month to month contract after July. He said he feels it sends a message that the Board is not serious.

Mrs. McGuire said the Board has known for some time that Mr. Ellis' contract would expire on December 31, 1998, and steps were not taken to begin a search for a replacement. She said by extending his contract for six months, the Board is sending a message that it is in transition. She said she feels the Board is very serious, and a six month contract is generous.

Dr. Moyer said he appreciates Mr. Ellis' position, desire to retire, and willingness to remain in the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction until an acceptable candidate can be found to resume his duties. He said consideration should be given to Mr. Ellis' circumstances, and he feels the Board is serious in the selection of a new candidate. He said the ambitious agenda that has been set forth will need to be considered when setting criteria for the selection process, and it is imperative that the person who will assume the position of Superintendent be prepared to help the Board carry on the foundation that has been established in terms of continued student improvement.

Mrs. Straus said Mr. Ellis stated during the meeting held on January 6, 1999, that he would only be willing to stay on as Superintendent of Public Instruction until September 1999, and it was her understanding that an agreement had been reached as outlined in the draft contract distributed to the Board. She said she was surprised that Mr. Ellis had declared that he would be willing to continue as Superintendent of Public Instruction for an additional two years.

Mr. Ellis said intentions expressed to Board members in private conversations were what he felt at the time made the most sense, however, after much consideration and discussion he feels it is necessary to remain in the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction. He said Ms. Harsh and he agree that the State Constitution states the State Board of Education appoints the Superintendent of Public Instruction until such time as he is replaced or resigns. He said any contracts drawn and brought forth relate to salary compensation and not length of service.



Mrs. Straus said Mr. Ellis and she do not share the same interpretation of the State Constitution, and she expressed concern that the drafted contract would be modified when she had thought everything was in place.

Mr. Durant suggested that the Board view the issue as a legal question since Mr. Ellis has stated he is willing to remain engaged with the Board until a replacement is found.

Mrs. Wise reminded the Board that the focus must be kept on the interests of the children in Michigan. She said Mr. Ellis' guidance will be needed to counsel the Department and help the new Legislature understand educational issues.

Mrs. Weiser said the increase in salary is appropriate and farsighted because when Mr. Ellis does leave, the Board will be faced with a tremendous gap between the current salary level and that of a large intermediate school district superintendent in Michigan, which she believes may be as high as \$150,000. She said it would be difficult to attract candidates with the disparity between the two salaries. She said she is pleased that the issue is being taken seriously, and would like to retain Mr. Ellis for another year.

Mrs. Gire said prior to her election to the State Board of Education, it was her understanding that the search process for a new superintendent had already begun. She said a determination regarding the search and the contract language needs to be made.

Mr. Durant said he believes the monetary compensation for the superintendent is inadequate, and the Board should take the necessary steps to rectify that situation. He said if the Board chooses to take no action, Mr. Ellis would remain on a day to day, meeting to meeting contract. He said he thinks the Board should wait to enter into a contract with Mr. Ellis, however, his pay rate should be adjusted so that when a new superintendent is hired, he or she will be compensated more closely to that of the current market.

Dr. Moyer said the superintendent is an at will employee, but that does not supersede the Board's ability and prerogative of establishing a contract for a determined period. He said the Board will have difficulty finding a new superintendent without the security of a contract or some element of compensation should termination occur.

Mr. Durant suggested that the Board table the contract until its February 18, 1999 meeting to allow an opportunity to establish the Board's priorities and determine if Mr. Ellis is able to embrace them in a way the Board feels they should be carried out.

Dr. Moyer said the Board has an opportunity to conduct a search to determine the viability of the market and the skills that will be necessary to interface with the

Board to enable the continuation of the improvement of student achievement in Michigan. He said the alternative is to sit back and simply extend what is already in place.

Mr. Durant suggested a solicitation of comments regarding Mr. Ellis' performance from school districts, the Legislature, and the public to determine if it is generally held that he has performed poorly in the past.

Dr. Moyer said a survey was conducted soliciting comments and opinions from local and intermediate superintendents regarding a state superintendent. He said he does not believe negative comments have been received, but many surveys contained ideas for the Board to consider and continue to build on the many accomplishments achieved. He said he would not want to send out a message requesting negative feedback, but instead relay a message that the Board has achieved a great deal and wished to build on that.

Mr. Durant said he has not seen the results of that survey, however, they should be compared with Mr. Ellis' abilities. He said the Board should not take action on the proposed contract.

Mrs. Beardmore said Mrs. Straus is correct in that there was a tentative agreement on the proposed contract, and even though it was not necessarily ideal, it was an acceptable document. She said the previous contract had expired and needed to be replaced because Mr. Ellis had commented several times that he would not leave the Board without leadership, which was appreciated. She said she is also aware that he wishes to retire, but because circumstances have changed, he has agreed to remain as Superintendent of Public Instruction. She said staff have expressed tremendous satisfaction and admiration for Mr. Ellis and his leadership. She said she is not eager for him to leave, however, she is also unwilling to remain in a state of transition.

Mr. Durant said the Michigan State Constitution has provided for a Superintendent of Public Instruction who may be replaced by the Board at any time, and the Board has maintained contracts over time to ensure the personal protection of the person filling the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Dr. Moyer moved, seconded by Mrs. Gire, that the State Board of Education accept the proposed contract for Mr. Arthur E. Ellis, Superintendent of Public Instruction from January 4, 1999 to July 1, 1999 at a salary of \$108,000 per year.**

**Mr. Durant offered an amendment, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education extend the contract from July 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999.**

Mr. Durant said he thinks it is critical for the Board to address the responses received

from the survey mailed by Mrs. Straus, determine the direction of the Board, and make a judgment on whether Mr. Ellis will have the ability to achieve those goals.

The vote was taken on the amendment.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Weiser, Wise**

**Nays: Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus**

**The amendment failed.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus**

**Nays: Beardmore, Durant, Weiser, Wise**

**The motion failed.**

Mr. Durant said if the Board decides that Mr. Ellis is not equipped to carry out the prescribed duties, it will send a much stronger signal to a new candidate that the Board acted to separate the salary from the issue of the particular person.

Mrs. Gire said she feels it would be confusing in terms of personnel practices that most people would recognize if there had been an ongoing evaluation process, and the Board determined a need for a re-evaluation of the salary structure before moving into a search process. She said the Board does need to address the level of salary and consider how it will impact the ability to attract a new superintendent, however, she feels that discussion should occur at a future Board meeting.

Mrs. McGuire said she agrees with Mrs. Gire in that if the contract is considered as merely a statement of salary, then there should be a written document. She said discussion may result in a salary other than \$108,000, however, she is not comfortable with merely a verbal agreement.

Mr. Durant said Mr. Ellis has already stated a willingness to remain in the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and that money is not the issue for him. He said he agrees with Mrs. Gire in that the Superintendent's salary should wait for further discussion.

Mr. Ellis said historically the legislature set the salary of the department heads, including the state superintendent. He said a budget line called Unclassified Salaries was established in the early 1990's that deferred that control from the Legislature to either the Governor, or in the case of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to the Board. He said the Board has not exercised its right to negotiate a salary with the Superintendent since 1997, however, he wished to point out that the right of negotiation could at any time be transferred back to the Legislature and the Board

was setting the stage for that action.

**Mr. Durant moved, seconded by Dr. Moyer, that the State Board of Education approve the contract for Arthur E. Ellis, Superintendent of Public Instruction from January 4, 1999 to December 31, 1999, at a salary of \$108,000 per year.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, Moyer, Weiser, Wise  
Nays: McGuire, Straus**

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. McGuire moved, that the State Board of Education establish a time line for conducting a search for a new Superintendent of Public Instruction by its February 18, 1999 meeting. No second was offered on the motion.

Mr. Ellis re-assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

## **XXII. REPORT OF HEARING OFFICER**

### **A. Property Transfer Case C-2580 - Lawrence and Nancy Yapp**

Mr. Ellis said Property Transfer Case C-2580 involves a request to transfer property from the Ypsilanti Public Schools to the Ann Arbor Public Schools. He said the Hearing Officer recommended that the property transfer request be denied.

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education adopt, as its own, the redrafted decision and order and authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue Property Transfer Case C-2580, Lawrence and Nancy Yapp, Appellants v Ypsilanti Public Schools and Ann Arbor Public Schools, Appellees, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998, denying appellants' petition to transfer property from the Ypsilanti Public Schools to the Ann Arbor Public Schools.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise  
Absent during vote: Durant, McGuire**

**The motion carried.**

B. Property Transfer Case C-2582 - Todd and Alisha Albrecht

Mr. Ellis said Property Transfer Case C-2582 involves a request to transfer property from the Hemlock Public Schools to the Swan Valley School District. He said the Hearing Officer recommends that the property transfer request be denied.

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education adopt, as its own, the written decision and order and authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue Property Transfer Case C-2582, Todd and Alisha Albrecht, Appellants v Hemlock Public Schools and Swan Valley School District, Appellees, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998, denying appellant's petition to transfer property from the Hemlock Public Schools to the Swan Valley School District.**

In response to Mrs. Beardmore, Ms. Harkness said it was her understanding that the current legislation provided that siblings of children who have been accepted under the schools of choice law receive priority, however, there is no guarantee of acceptance.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Straus, Weiser, Wise  
Absent during vote: Durant, McGuire, Moyer**

**The motion carried.**

C. Property Transfer Case C-2584 - Ricci Williams

Mr. Ellis said Property Transfer Case C-2584 involves a request to transfer property from the Morrice Area Schools to the Byron Area Schools. He said the Hearing Officer recommends that the property be transferred.

**Mrs. Gire moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education adopt, as its own, the written decision and order and authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue Property Transfer Case C-2584, Ricci Williams, Appellant v Morrice Area Schools and Byron Area Schools, Appellees, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 16, 1998, granting appellant's petition to transfer property from the Morrice Area Schools to the Byron Area Schools.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**Absent during vote: Durant, McGuire, Moyer**

**The motion carried.**

**XXIII. TEACHER CERTIFICATION REVOCATION CASE - CHRISTINE DALLOS, TCR 98-2**

Mr. Ellis said the Board has been provided with the record filed in Teacher Certification Revocation Case TCR 98-2. He said the Hearing Officer recommends that the case be remanded back to the Hearing Officer for proceedings consistent with the decision.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Beardmore, that the State Board of Education refer Teacher Certification Revocation Case TCR 98-2 back to the Hearing Officer to write a Decision and Order granting exceptions and revoking the certification of Christine Dallos, and that the item be scheduled for action at the February 18, 1999 State Board of Education meeting.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Straus, Weiser, Wise  
Absent during vote: Durant, Moyer**

**The motion carried.**

**XXIV. APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE RULE WAIVERS**

Mr. Ellis said the Administrative Rule Waivers presented to the Board for approval are consistent with IDEA-97.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Beardmore, that the State Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendations regarding administrative rule waivers submitted by Clare-Gladwin Intermediate School District, Ionia Intermediate School District and Barry Intermediate School District, described in Attachment A to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 22, 1998.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Straus, Weiser, Wise  
Absent during vote: Moyer**

**The motion carried.**

**XXV. RECEIVE THE REPORT ON THE ANNUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE**

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION FOR TEACHERS

Due to staff unavailability, this item was removed from the agenda.

XXVI. APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM HOPE COLLEGE FOR AN AMENDMENT OF ITS LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM AS A GROUP MINOR AT THE SECONDARY LEVEL

Due to staff unavailability, this item was removed from the agenda.

XXVII. APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 1998-99 GRANTS FOR SELECT STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (4-S), MICHIGAN COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP (MICUP), AND THE MORRIS HOOD, JR. EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

This item was removed from the agenda.

XXVIII. REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION

This item was removed from the agenda.

XXIX. REPORT ON FEDERAL LEGISLATION

This item was removed from the agenda.

XXX. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

There was no Report of the Superintendent.

XXXI. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

There were no comments by State Board of Education members.

XXXII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. Approval of the 1999-2000 Funding and Grant Criteria for Adult Basic Education Activities Under Sections 322 and 353 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act
- B. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 Michigan School Readiness Program Grants for Four-Year-Old Children At-Risk for School Failure
- C. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 Federally-Funded Child Care and Development Fund Grants for School-Age Child Care
- D. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 New and Continuation Even Start Grants

- E. Approval of Amended FY 1997-98 Grant Awards for *Early On*® Michigan Under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- F. Approval of FY 1999 Off-Road Vehicle Grant Awards
- G. Report on the Status of Alternative Education
- H. Receive the Report on Personnel Status
- I. Approval of the Carl D. Perkins Annual Performance Report for 1997-98
- J. Approval of 1998-2001 Intermediate School District Plans and Approval of One Modification to a Previously Approved Intermediate School District Plan
- K. Appointment of Members to the State Board for Public Community Colleges
- L. Approval of State Board of Education/Department of Education Cosponsorships

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education approve the tentative agenda for the next meeting.**

**Ayes: Beardmore, Durant, Gire, McGuire, Straus, Weiser, Wise  
Absent during vote: Moyer**

**The motion carried.**

**XXXIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- A. February 18, 1999
- B. March 18, 1999
- C. April 14-15, 1999
- D. May 20, 1999

**XXXIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert S. Moyer  
Secretary